WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An integral capillary microcuvette comprising a body member and a cavity including a measuring zone within the body member, the cavity being defined by two opposite, substantially parallel inner surfaces of the body member, an outer peripheral edge including a sample inlet and an inner peripheral zone having a channel of higher capillary force than the measuring zone, both ends of the channel communicating with the exterior of the microcuvette.

2. A microcuvette according to claim 1, wherein said channel is defined by an inner end wall of said inner peripheral zone and two substantially planar surfaces of said body member.

3. A microcuvette according to claim 2, wherein said two substantially planar surfaces are parallel and the distance therebetween is less than the distance between the inner surfaces defining said measuring zone.

4. A microcuvette according to claim 2, wherein the distance between the two substantially planar surfaces of said body member increases in a direction extending away from said inner end wall of said inner peripheral zone.

5. A microcuvette according to claim 1, wherein said cavity has predetermined volume.

6. A microcuvette according to claim 1, wherein said cavity includes a dry reagent in a predetermined amount.

7. A microcuvette according to claim 1, for use in the determination of hemoglobin in undiluted whole blood, wherein said measuring zone has depth that does not exceed 0.15 mm.

8. A microcuvette according to claim 7, wherein hemoglobin is determined by the azidmethemoglobin method.